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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

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23 FEB 1978

WARNING NOTICE
SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Terence A. Todman
Assistant Secretary of State
for Inter-American Affairs

Mr. Harold H. Saunders
The Director of Intelligence and Research

Mr. Robert Pastor
Senior Staff Member
National Security Council

FROM : John McMahon
Deputy Director for Operations

SUBJECT : Effort by a Member of the Argentine Montoneros to Obtain Introductions to United States Congressmen 3.3(b)(1)

[redacted]

2. In late January or early February 1978 Ricardo Obregon Cano, a member of the Montoneros, an Argentine terrorist organization, met with [redacted] 3.3(b)(1) political leader in exile, at an unspecified location in the United States. Obregon's purpose was to request [redacted] 3.3(b)(1) advice and obtain from him introductions to members of the United States Congress in order to present cases of human rights violations in Argentina. [redacted] allegedly assured Obregon tha 3.3(b)(1) he had direct contact with [redacted] who would be pleased to meet with him.

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3. [redacted] Comment: The fact that U.S. Senators and Congressmen quite frequently accept visits by exiled politicians of all stripes and that the usual procedure is to give them a short hearing and certain reassurances without making any commitments is not generally understood here, and we can expect that Uruguayan military leaders will interpret the above as further evidence of U.S. duplicity or complicity with exiled political personalities to the detriment of Uruguay. The importance of the above information is that it provides the Embassy with advance notice of yet another irrelevant issue that will nevertheless rankle some members of the Government of Uruguay and will require the Embassy to explain the nature of how U.S. Senators and Congressmen go about doing their business. We cannot predict what problems, if any, the idea of a senior U.S. Senator discussing human rights cases with a member of a terrorist organization will cause here.)

4. The above information has been made available to the U.S. Ambassadors in Montevideo and Buenos Aires and to the Senate and House Select Committees on Intelligence.

John H. Stein
for
John McMahon

[redacted]

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